

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An inventory control method determines a standard deviation based on the difference between an actual received order quantity in each unit period and an average received order quantity, and controls a stock quantity by use of a safety stock quantity based on the standard deviation. In the inventory control method, the standard deviation is determined using the value of the difference only when the actual received order quantity exceeds the average received order quantity. That is, the standard deviation is determined with the exclusion of variations due to differences obtained when the actual received order quantity falls short of the average received order quantity. Since the safety stock quantity is controlled based on the so determined standard deviation, the total stock quantity is appropriately decreased.